

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of:  
Ralf Esser

Application No.: 10/578,759

Confirmation No.: 1441

Filed: May 5, 2006

Art Unit: 3711

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Examiner: R. W. Chiu

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION FOR FILING WITH REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed April 2, 2009, in the above-captioned case and is being filed in conjunction with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Should no such RCE be filed along with this paper, please consider this paper to also be the RCE under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, i.e., continued examination is hereby requested.

*Amendments to the Specification* begin on page 2 of this paper.

*Amendments to the Claims* are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

*Amendments to the Drawings* are reflected on page 7 and the replacement sheet of drawings attached to this paper.

*Remarks* begin at page 8 of this paper.